PATENT

PATENT APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL

The Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231
Sir:

Transmitted herewith for filing is the patent application under 37 CFR 1.53(b) of:

INVENTORS: Sai P. Sunkara

FOR: Method of Treating Cancer by Conjunctive Therapy with 2'-Halomethylidene Derivatives and a S-Phase or M-Phase Specific Antineoplastic Agent

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail in an envelope addressed to Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on

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EM361641235 US
Express Mail No

☒ If a CONTINUING Application, check appropriate box and supply the requisite information:
☒ Continuation ☐ Divisional ☐ Continuation-in-part
of prior application no: USSN 08/967,190, Filed 10/29/1997.
(The cross reference has been/will be inserted on page one of the specification).

☐ This application claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No. , filed . (The cross reference has been/will be inserted on page one of the specification).

Enclosed are:

☒ Specification [Total Pages 22 Pages, including Abstract]

☐ 0 Sheets/Pages of Drawing.

☐ Nucleotide and/or Amino Acid Sequence Submission:
☐ Computer Readable Copy ☐ Paper Copy ☐ Statement verifying identity of said copies.

☒ A Declaration ☐ Newly Executed (original or copy)
☒ Copy from a prior application (37 CFR 1.63(d))

☒ ***Incorporation By Reference*** (useable if filing a continuation/divisional and a copy of the declaration from the prior application is enclosed.)
The entire disclosure of the prior application, from which a copy of the oath or declaration is supplied, is considered as being part of the disclosure of the accompanying application and is hereby incorporated by reference therein.

☒ Also enclosed:
Information Disclosure Statement w/1449 Form
Copy of Associate Power of Attorney
Preliminary Amendment

☐ This application is filed by fewer than all the inventors named in the prior application.

☐ DELETE the following inventor(s) named in the prior nonprovisional application:

___ ______________________________
___ ______________________________
___ ______________________________

CLAIMS AS FILED					
	(1) FOR	(2) NUMBER FILED	(3) NUMBER EXTRA	(4) RATE	(5) BASIC FEE ($790.00)
	TOTAL CLAIMS	12 - 20	0	x $ 22.00	0.00
	INDEPENDENT CLAIMS	1 - 3	0	x $ 82.00	0.00
	MULTI-DEPENDENT CLAIMS(S), Per Application ($270.00)				0
				TOTAL FILING FEE	$790.00

☐ Cancel in this application original claims _______ of the prior application before calculating the filing fee. (At least one original independent claim has been retained for filing purposes).

☒ Please charge my Deposit Account No. **13-2764** in the amount of $790.00. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees under 37 C.F.R. 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required by this paper, for credit any overpayment to Account No. **13-2764**. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Sai P. Sunkara

Serial No.: **Not Yet Assigned**

Filed: **September 25, 1998**

Title: **Method of Treating Cancer by Conjunctive Therapy with 2'-Halomethylidene Derivatives and a S-Phase or M-Phase Specific Antineoplastic Agent**

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Previous Art Unit: 1614

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to initial examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

AMENDMENT

In the Specification

After the title of the Invention, please insert -- This is a continuation, of application Serial Number 08/967,190, filed October 29, 1997, which is a continuation of application Serial Number 08/834,589, filed April 7, 1997, now abandoned, which is a continuation of application Serial Number 08/537,170, filed September 28, 1995, now abandoned, which is a continuation of Serial Number 08/435,240, filed May 5, 1995, now abandoned, which is a continuation of Serial No. 08/358,662, filed December 19, 1994, now abandoned, which is a continuation of Serial No. 08/285,618, filed

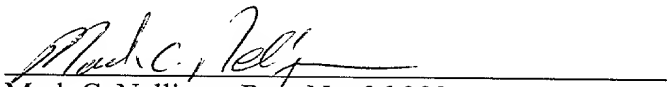
August 3, 1994, now abandoned, which is a continuation of Serial Number 08/182,313, filed January 14, 1994, now abandoned, which is a continuation of Serial Number 08/098,769, filed July 28, 1993, now abandoned, which is a continuation of Serial Number 08/023,160, filed February 25, 1993, now abandoned, which is a continuation of Serial Number 07/866,399, filed April 10, 1992, now abandoned, which are herein incorporated by reference. --

REMARKS

By this Preliminary Amendment the specification is amended to insert cross-reference to related applications. Prompt and favorable examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further is desirable in order to place the application in even better condition for initial examination and allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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METHOD OF TREATING CANCER BY CONJUNCTIVE THERAPY WITH 2'-HALOMETHYLIDENE DERIVATIVES AND A S-PHASE OR M-PHASE SPECIFIC ANTINEOPLASTIC AGENT

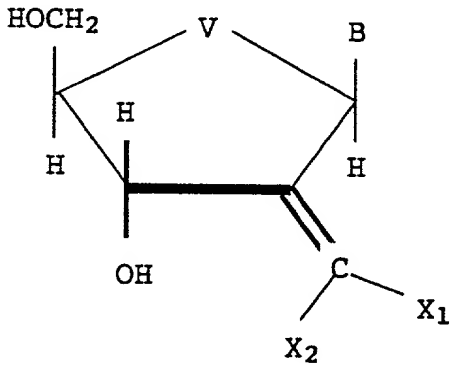
BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Neoplastic disease states in humans are recognized throughout the world as being serious and oftentimes life-threatening conditions. These neoplastic diseases, which are characterized by rapidly-proliferating cell growth, have been and continue to be the subject of worldwide research efforts directed toward the identification of therapeutic agents which are effective in the treatment of patients suffering therefrom. Effective therapeutic agents can be characterized as those which prolong the survivability of the patient, which inhibit the rapidly-proliferating cell growth associated with the neoplasm, or which effect a regression of the neoplasm. Research in this area is primarily focused toward identifying agents which would be therapeutically effective in humans. Typically, compounds are tested for antineoplastic activity in small mammals, such as mice, in experiments designed to be predictive of antineoplastic activity not only in those animals but also in humans against specific neoplastic disease states.

Certain S-phase specific antimetabolites and M-phase specific vinca alkaloids are well known as effective

antineoplastic agents [See Corr, R. T., and Fritz, W. L., "CANCER CHEMOTHERAPY HANDBOOK", 1980, Elseveir North Holland, Inc., New York, New York and Calabresi, P., and Chabner, B. A., "CHEMOTHERAPY OF NEOPLASTIC DISEASES", Section XII, GOODMAN AND GILLMAN'S THE PHARMACOLOGICAL BASIS OF THERAPEUTICS, 8th ed., 1990, Pergamon Press Inc., Elmsford, New York]. Cytarabine (ARA-C), fluorouracil (5-FU), mercaptopurine (6-MP), methotrexate (MTX), thioguanine (6-TG), hydroxyurea, prednisone, procarbazine and diglycoaldehyde are examples of antimetabolites with antineoplastic properties. Vincristine and vinblastine are examples of vinca alkaloids with antineoplastic properties. These agents are proven to be useful in the treatment of patients suffering from a variety of neoplastic disease states.

Certain 2'-halomethylidene derivatives of the formula (1)



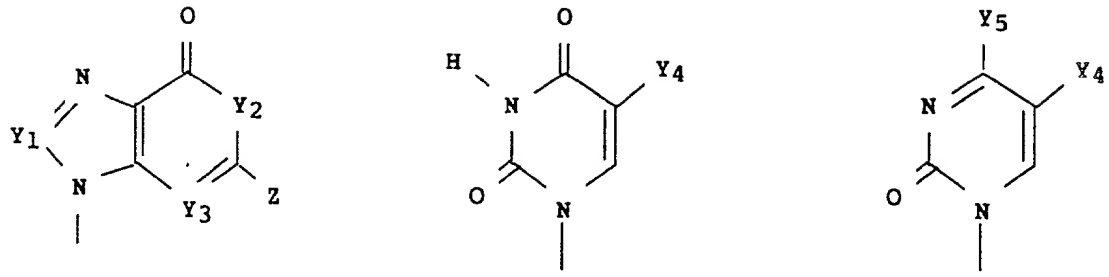
(1)

wherein

V is oxy, methylene, or thio,

X_1 and X_2 are each independently hydrogen or halogen, with the proviso that at least one of X_1 and X_2 is halogen,

B is a radical of the formula



wherein Y_1 is nitrogen, a CH group, a CCl group, a CBr group or a CNH_2 group; Y_2 and Y_3 are each independently nitrogen or a CH group; Y_4 is hydrogen, C_1-C_4 alkyl, C_1-C_4 alkoxy or halogen; Y_5 is amino or C_1-C_4 alkoxy; and Z is hydrogen, halogen, or NH_2;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, such as (E)-2'-deoxy-2'-fluoromethylidenecytidine, are also well known as effective antineoplastic agents [European Patent Application Publication No. 0 372 268, published June 13, 1990]. These 2'-halomethylidene derivatives of formula (1) are ribonucleotide reductase inhibitors with potent antiproliferative and antitumor activity which are also useful in the treatment of patients suffering from a variety of neoplastic disease states.

It has now been found that in treating a patient afflicted with certain neoplastic disease states, conjunctive therapy with a 2'-halomethylidene derivatives of formula (1), such as (E)-2'-deoxy-2'-fluoromethylidenecytidine, and a S-phase specific antineoplastic antimetabolite or M-phase specific vinca alkaloid will provide a synergistic antineoplastic effect.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present invention provides a method of treating a patient suffering from a neoplastic disease state comprising administering to said patient an effective antineoplastic amount of a 2'-halomethylidene derivative of formula (1) in conjunctive therapy with an effective antineoplastic amount of a S-phase or M-phase specific antineoplastic antimetabolite or vinca alkaloid.

More specifically, the present invention provides a method of treating a patient suffering from a neoplastic disease state comprising administering an effective antineoplastic amount of 2'-halomethylidene derivative of formula (1) in conjunctive therapy with an effective antineoplastic amount of cytarabine (ARA-C), fluorouracil (5-FU), mercaptopurine (6-MP), methotrexate (MTX), thioguanine (6-TG), hydroxyurea, prednisone, procarbazine, diglycoaldehyde, vincristine or vinblastine.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

As used herein, the term "halogen" or "halo-" refers to a fluorine, chlorine, bromine, or iodine atom and the term "nitrogen" refers to a trivalent nitrogen atom attached to two radicals. The term "C_1-C_4 alkyl" refers to a saturated straight or branched chain hydrocarbyl radical of one to four carbon atoms and includes methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, n-butyl, isobutyl, tertiary butyl and the like. The term "C_1-C_4 alkoxy" refers to a C_1-C_4 alkyl bearing an oxy group and includes methoxy, ethoxy, propoxy, butoxy and the like.

As used herein, the term "S phase specific agent" refers to those agents which exert their cytotoxyic activity in the

S phase or DNA synthetic phase of the cell cycle. Included within the meaning of the term are agents which exert their cytotoxic effect during the S phase of the cell cycle and subsequently result in cell death. Examples of cytotoxic agents in this class are the antimetabolites cytarabine (ARA-C), fluorouracil (5-FU), mercaptopurine (6-MP), methotrexate (MTX), thioguanine (6-TG), hydroxyurea, prednisone, procarbazine and diglycoaldehyde. Also included within the meaning of the term "S phase specific agent" are agents which exert their cytotoxic effect during the S phase but result in cell death while the cell is in the M phase or mitosis phase of the cell cycle. Examples of cytotoxic agents in this class are the nitrosoureas and bleomycin.

As used herein, the term "M phase specific agent" refers to those agents which exert their cytotoxic activity in the M-phase or mytic phase of the cell cycle. Included within the meaning of the term are agents which exert their cytotoxic effect during the M phase of the cell cycle and subsequently result in cell death. Examples of cytotoxic agents in this class are the etoposid, vincristine and vinblastine.

2'-Halomethylidene derivatives of formula (1) can be prepared as described in European Patent Application Publication No. 0 372 268, published June 13, 1990. In order to illustrate the preparation of the 2'-halomethylidene derivatives of formula (1), the following example illustrating the preparation of (E)-2'-deoxy-2'-fluoromethylidenecytidine is provided. The example is illustrative only and is not intended to limit the invention in any way. All temperatures are in degrees Celsius and the following abbreviations are used: (g) is grams, (mol) is moles, (ml) is milliliters, (l) is liters, (lb/in^2) is pounds per square inch, (TLC) is thin layer chromatography,

(THF) is tetrahydrofuran, (DMF) is dimethylformamide, (mp) is melting point, (mm/Hg) is pressure expressed as millimeters of mercury, and (bp) is boiling point.

EXAMPLE 1

(Z)- and (E)-2'-DEOXY-2'-FLUOROMETHYLIDENECYTIDINE

Step a: 4-Ethoxy-1-[(3,5-O-tetraisopropyldisiloxan-1,3-diyl)-β-D-erythro-pentofuran-2-(2-fluoro-2-phenylsulfonyl methylidene)osyl]-2(1H)-pyrimidone

Prepare diethylfluoromethylphenylsulfonylphosphonate as follows: To a solution of fluoromethylphenyl sulfone (500 mg, 2.87 mmol) in dry THF (30 ml) which has been cooled to about -60°C in a dry 3-necked 100ml flask with stirring bar, argon inlet valve, thermometer and rubber septum, add diethyl chlorophosphate (500 mg, 0.42 ml, 2.87 mmol) via syringe. To this mixture, add a solution of 1.65 M lithium diisopropylamide in cyclohexane (3.48 ml, 5.74 mmol) via syringe and follow the formation of diethylfluoromethyl-phenylsulfonylphosphonate by gas-liquid chromatography (GLC).

To the diethylfluoromethylphenylsulfonylphosphonate solution above add a solution of 4-ethoxy-1-[(3,5-O-tetraisopropyldisiloxan-1,3-diyl)-2-keto-β-D-erythro-pentofuranosyl]-2(1H)-pyrimidone (732 mg, 2 mmol) in dry THF (about 5 ml) and allow the reaction mixture to warm to room temperature overnight under an argon atmosphere. Pour the mixture into a saturated, ice-cold solution of ammonium chloride and extract the mixture with ethyl acetate (3 times, 75 ml each time). Combine the organic layers, dry with anhydrous magnesium sulfate, and evaporate to dryness. Chromatograph the residue on a silica gel flash column eluting with ethyl acetate/hexane (1/1, v/v) to provide the title compound.

Step b: 4-Ethoxy-1-[β-D-erythro-pentofuran-2-(2-fluoro-2-phenylsulfonylmethylidene)osyl]-2(1H)-pyrimidone

To a solution of 1.0 M tetrabutylammonium fluoride in THF (2.2 ml, 2.2 mmol) add 4-ethoxy-1-[(3,5-O-tetraisopropyldisiloxan-1,3-diyl)-β-D-erythro-pentofuran-2-(2-fluoro-2-phenylsulfonylmethylidene)osyl]-2(1H)-pyrimidone (668 mg, 1 mmol) and stir the mixture at room temperature for 2 hours. Neutralize the mixture with acetic acid, add flash silica gel to the mixture and evaporate to dryness *in vacuo*. Apply the residue to a flash silica gel column and elute with chloroform/ethanol (20/1, v/v) to provide the title compound.

Step c: (Z)- and (E)-2'-Deoxy-2'-fluoromethylidenecytidine

To a solution of 4-ethoxy-1-[β-D-erythro-pentofuran-2-(2-fluoro-2-phenylsulfonylmethylidene)osyl]-2(1H)-pyrimidone (854 mg, 2 mmol) in 10% aqueous THF (100 ml) under a nitrogen atmosphere, add aluminum amalgam (made from 0.04 gm aluminum in 2% aqueous $HgCl_2$). Stir and vent the mixture while refluxing for 2 hours. Filter the mixture and evaporate most of the THF *in vacuo*. Extract the residue with ethyl acetate (3 times, 25 ml each time), combine the organic layers and dry with anhydrous Na_2SO_4. Evaporate to dryness *in vacuo* and apply the residue to a flash silica gel column and elute with chloroform/ethanol (9/1, v/v) to provide (Z)- and (E)-4-ethoxy-1-[β-D-erythro-pentofuran-2-(2-fluoromethylidene)osyl]-2(1H)-pyrimidone as a mixture of geometric isomers.

Heat a solution of (Z)- and (E)-4-ethoxy-1-[β-D-erythro-pentofuran-2-(2-fluoromethylidene)osyl]-2(1H)-pyrimidone (858 mg, 3 mmol) in methanolic ammonia (10 ml, saturated at 0°C) in a sealed tube at 100°C for 2 days. Evaporate the solution to dryness and separate the (Z) and (E) isomers of the title compound by chromatography by applying the residue

to a column packed with Dowex 1-X2 (OH^- form) and eluting with methanol.

The antineoplastic antimetabolites, such as cytarabine (ARA-C), fluorouracil (5-FU), mercaptopurine (6-MP), methotrexate (MTX), thioguanine (6-TG), hydroxyurea, prednisone, procarbazine and diglycoaldehyde and the antineoplastic vinca alkaloids, such as vincristine and vinblastine, are readily available and their use as antineoplastic agents is well known and appreciated in the art [For example, See Corr, R. T., and Fritz, W. L., "CANCER CHEMOTHERAPY HANDBOOK", 1980, Elseveir North Holland, Inc., New York, New York and Calabresi, P., and Chabner, B. A., "CHEMOTHERAPY OF NEOPLASTIC DISEASES", Section XII, GOODMAN AND GILLMAN'S THE PHARMACOLOGICAL BASIS OF THERAPEUTICS, 8th ed., 1990, Pergamon Press Inc., Elmsford, New York].

The present invention provides a method of treating a patient suffering from a neoplastic disease state comprising conjunctive therapy with an effective antineoplastic amount of a 2'-halomethylidene of formula (1) and an effective antineoplastic amount of a S-phase specific antineoplastic antimetabolite or M-phase specific vinca alkaloid. This conjunctive therapy unexpectedly provides a synergistic antineoplastic effect.

As used herein, the term "patient" refers to a warm-blooded animal such as a mammal which is afflicted with a neoplastic disease state. It is understood that dogs, cats, rats, mice, horses, bovine cattle, sheep, and humans are examples of animals within the scope of the meaning of the term.

The term "neoplastic disease state" as used herein refers to an abnormal state or condition characterized by

rapidly proliferating cell growth or neoplasm. Neoplastic disease states for which conjunctive therapy according to the present invention will be particularly useful include: Leukemias such as, but not limited to, acute lymphoblastic, chronic lymphocytic, acute myloblastic and chronic mylocytic; Carcinomas, such as, but not limited to, those of the cervix, oesophagus, stomach, small intestines, brain, colon and lungs; Sarcomas, such as, but not limited to, oesteroma, osteosarcoma, lepoma, liposarcoma, hemangioma and hemangiosarcoma; Melanomas, including amelanotic and melanotic; and mixed types of neoplasias such as, but not limited to carcinosarcoma, lymphoid tissue type, follicular reticulum, cell sarcoma and Hodgkin's disease. Of course, one skilled in the art will recognize that not every combination of conjunctive therapy according to the present invention will be equally effective against each of the neoplastic disease states. Selection of the most appropriate combination is within the ability of one of ordinary skill in the art and will depend on a variety of factors including assessment of results obtained in standard animal cancer models and the effectiveness of the individual agents as monotherapy in treating particular neoplastic disease states.

For example, conjunctive therapy with a 2'-halomethylidene derivatives of formula (1) and cytarabine will be particularly effective in the treatment of a patient afflicted with acute granulocytic and acute lymphocytic leukemias. Conjunctive therapy with a 2'-halomethylidene derivative of formula (1) and hydroxyurea will be particularly effective in the treatment of a patient afflicted with chronic granulocytic leukemia, polycythemia vera, essential thrombocytosis and malignant melanoma. Conjunctive therapy with a 2'-halomethylidene derivative of formula (1) and prednisone will be particularly effective in

the treatment of a patient afflicted with acute and chronic lymphocytic leukemias, non-Hodgkin's lymphomas, Hodgkin's disease and breast carcinoma. Conjunctive therapy with a 2'-halomethylidene derivative of formula (1) and methotrexate will be particularly effective in the treatment of a patient afflicted with acute lymphocytic leukemia, choriocarcinoma, mycosis fungoides, breast, head and neck carcinoma, and lung osteogenic sarcoma. Conjunctive therapy with a 2'-halomethylidene derivative of formula (1) and fluorouracil will be particularly effective in the treatment of a patient afflicted with breast, colon, stomach, pancreas, ovary, head and neck carcinoma, urinary bladder carcinoma and premalignant skin lesions. Conjunctive therapy with a 2'-halomethylidene derivative of formula (1) and mercaptopurine will be particularly effective in the treatment of a patient afflicted with acute lymphocytic, acute granolocytic and chronic granulocytic leukemias. Conjunctive therapy with a 2'-halomethylidene derivative of formula (1) and thioguanine will be particularly effective in the treatment of a patient afflicted with acute granulocytic, acute lymphocytic, and chronic granulocytic leukemias. Conjunctive therapy with a 2'-halomethylidene derivative of formula (1) and procarbazine will be particularly effective in the treatment of a patient afflicted with Hodgkin's disease. Conjunctive therapy with a 2'-halomethylidene derivative of formula (1) and vincristine will be particularly effective in the treatment of a patient afflicted with acute lymphocytic leukemia, neuroblastoma, Wilms' tumor, rhabdomyosarcoma, Hodgkin's disease and small-cell lung carcinoma. Conjunctive therapy with a 2'-halomethylidene derivative of formula (1) and vinblastine will be particularly effective in the treatment of a patient afflicted with Hodgkin's disease, non-Hodgkin's lymphomas, breast and testis carcinoma.

In effecting treatment of a patient afflicted with a neoplastic disease state as described above, a 2'-halomethylidene derivative of formula (1) is administered in conjunctive therapy with a S-phase specific antineoplastic antimetabolite or M-phase specific vinca alkaloid. As used herein, the term "conjunctive therapy" contemplates co-administration of a 2'-halomethylidene derivative of formula (1) along with the S-phase specific antineoplastic antimetabolite or M-phase specific vinca alkaloid. This co-administration may take place at essentially the same time, it may take place sequentially, or it may take place alternately.

In providing co-administration at essentially the same time, the courses of treatment with a 2'-halomethylidene derivative of formula (1) and the selected S-phase specific antineoplastic antimetabolite or M-phase specific vinca alkaloid run essentially concomitantly. In providing sequential co-administration, a full course of treatment of one of the agents is terminated and then followed by a full course of treatment of the other. In providing alternate co-administration, a partial course of treatment of one of the agents is terminated and then followed by a partial course of treatment of the other in an alternating manner until a full treatment of each agent is administered. When the 2'-halomethylidene derivative of formula (1) and the selected S-phase specific antineoplastic antimetabolite or M-phase specific vinca alkaloid are co-administered in a sequential or an alternate manner, it is generally preferred to administer the 2'-halomethylidene derivative of formula (1) first and the S-phase specific antineoplastic antimetabolite or M-phase specific vinca alkaloid last.

In effecting the conjunctive therapy according to the present invention, it is preferred to co-administer the 2'-

halomethylidene derivative of formula (1) and the selected S-phase specific antineoplastic antimetabolite or M-phase specific vinca alkaloid in a sequential or an alternate manner. It is most preferred to co-administer the 2'-halomethylidene derivative of formula (1) and the selected S-phase specific antineoplastic antimetabolite or M-phase specific vinca alkaloid in a sequential manner.

As used herein, the term "effective antineoplastic amount" refers to an amount which is effective, upon single or multiple dose administration to the patient, in controlling the growth of the neoplasm or in prolonging the survivability of the patient beyond that expected in the absence of such treatment. As used herein, "controlling the growth" of the neoplasm refers to slowing, interrupting, arresting or stopping its growth and does not necessarily indicate a total elimination of the neoplasm.

An effective antineoplastic amount of a 2'-halomethylidene derivative of formula (1) is expected to vary from about 10 milligram per kilogram of body weight per day (mg/kg/day) to about 100 mg/kg/day and preferably will be about 5 mg/kg/day to about 50 mg/kg/day.

The effective antineoplastic amounts of the various S-phase specific antineoplastic antimetabolites and M-phase specific vinca alkaloids are well known and appreciated in the art. For example, an effective antineoplastic amount of cytarabine (ARA-C) is expected to vary from about 1 mg/m^2/day to about 200 mg/m^2/day. An effective antineoplastic amount of fluorouracil (5-FU) is expected to vary from about 6 mg/m^2/day to about 800 mg/m^2/day. An effective antineoplastic amount of mercaptopurine (6-MP) is expected to vary from about 2.5 mg/m^2/day to about 700 mg/m^2/day. An effective antineoplastic amount of

methotrexate (MTX) is expected to vary from about 2.5 $mg/m^2/day$ to about 30 $mg/m^2/day$. An effective antineoplastic amount of thioguanine (6-TG) is expected to vary from about 2 mg/kg/day to about 3 mg/kg/day. An effective antineoplastic amount of hydroxyurea is expected to vary from about 20 mg/kg/day to about 80 mg/kg/day. An effective antineoplastic amount of prednisone is expected to vary from about 15 $mg/m^2/day$ to about 100 $mg/m^2/day$. An effective antineoplastic amount of procarbazine is expected to vary from about 1 mg/kg/day to about 4 mg/kg/day. An effective antineoplastic amount of diglycoaldehyde is expected to vary from about 0.25 mg/kg/day to about 5 mg/kg/day. An effective antineoplastic amount of vincristine is expected to vary from about 0.4 $mg/M^2/week$ to about 2 $mg/M^2/week$. An effective antineoplastic amount of vinblastine is expected to vary from about 4.0 $mg/m^2/week$ to about 2 $mg/m^2/day$.

In effecting treatment of a patient afflicted with a disease state described above, the 2'-halomethylidene derivatives of formula (1) can be administered in any form or mode which makes the compound bioavailable in effective amounts, including oral and parenteral routes. For example, it can be administered orally, subcutaneously, intramuscularly, intravenously, transdermally, intranasally, rectally, and the like. Oral administration is generally preferred. One skilled in the art of preparing formulations can readily select the proper form and mode of administration depending upon the particular circumstances, including the disease state to be treated, the stage of the disease, the form of administration of the selected S-phase specific antineoplastic antimetabolite or vinca alkaloid, the manner of co-administration selected, and the like.

In effecting treatment of a patient afflicted with a disease state described above, the 2'-halomethylidene

derivatives of formula (1), can be administered in combination with the various S-phase specific antineoplastic antimetabolites or M-phase specific vinca alkaloids in the proportions of antineoplastic amount of a 2'-halomethylidene derivative of formula (1) to antineoplastic amount of a S-phase or M-phase specific agent in the range of about 1:0.1 to about 1:50, more preferably in the range of about 1:1 to about 1:20 and most preferably in the range of about 1:1 to about 1:10.

The 2'-halomethylidene derivatives of formula (1) can be administered alone or in the form of a pharmaceutical composition in combination with pharmaceutically acceptable carriers or excipients, the proportion and nature of which are determined by the solubility and chemical properties of the 2'-halomethylidene derivatives of formula (1), the chosen route of administration, and standard pharmaceutical practice. The 2'-halomethylidene derivative of formula (1), while effective itself, may be formulated and administered in the form of its pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt for purposes of stability, convenience of crystallization, increased solubility and the like.

The selected S-phase specific antineoplastic antimetabolite or M-phase specific vinca alkaloid can be administered in a manner as is well known and accepted for the particular agent. For example, cytarabine, fluorouracil, methotrexate, thioguanine, hydroxyurea, procarbazine, mercaptopurine (as its sodium salt), vinblastine and vincristine may be administered intravenously. Mercaptopurine, methotrexate, thioguanine, hydroxyurea, prednisone, procarbazine and diglycoaldehyde may be administered orally. Methotrexate may also be administered via intramuscular, intraarterial and intrathecal routes.

The following examples are provided in order to illustrate the method of use of the present invention. These examples are intended to be illustrative only and are not to be construed to limit the scope of the invention in any way.

Example 2

Synergistic Antitumor Activity of A Combination of MDL 101,731 and Ara-C Against B16 Melanoma in Mice.

Inject B16 melanoma cells ($1X10^5$ cells/mouse) subcutaneously on day 0. Administer compounds i.p. once daily as indicated. Sacrifice the animals on day 15, dissect the tumors and weigh.

Table 1
Antitumor Activity against B16 Melanoma

Treatment	Tumor Weight (g) (Mean ± S.D.[a])	% Inhibition
Control	2.6 ± 0.5	-
101,731[b] (5 mg/kg, day 1-7)	2.4 ± 0.9	10
Ara-C (10 mg/kg, day 7-14)	3.6 ± 0.8	0
101,731+ Ara-C	1.0 ± 0.3	59

[a] S.D. = Standard Deviation
[b] 101,731 = (E)-2'-deoxy-2'-fluoromethylidenecytidine

Example 3

Synergistic Antitumor Activity of A Combination of MDL 101,731 and Ara-C Against Lewis Lung Carcinoma in Mice

Inject 3LL cells (1X10^5/mouse) s.c. on day 0. Administer compounds i.p., once daily as indicated. Sacrifice animals on day 15, dissect the tumors and weigh. Also count pulmonary metastatic foci.

Table 2
Antitumor Activity against Lewis Lung Carcinoma

Treatment	Tumor Weight (g) (Mean ± S.D.[a])	% Inhibition	No. of Foci (Mean ± S.D.[a])	% Inhibition
Control	3.5 ± 0.4	-	11.3 ± 4	-
101,731[b] (5 mg/kg, day 1-7)	2.8 ± 0.6	20	15.5 ± 6	0
Ara-C (10 mg/kg, day 7-14)	3.83 ± 0.8	0	14.6 ± 5	0
101,731+ Ara-C	1.12 ± 0.3	69	0	100

[a] S.D. = Standard Deviation
[b] 101,731 = (E)-2'-deoxy-2'-fluoromethylidenecytidine

Example 4

Synergistic Antiproliferative Activity of MDL 101,731 in Combination with S Phase Specific Antitumor Agents Against Hela Cells

Plate HeLa cells ($2X10^3$ cells/well) and allow to grow for 18 hours. Treat with MDL 101,731 (15ng/mL) for 24 hours. Wash the compound and expose cells to the indicated drugs for another 72 hours. Determine the cell viability by a colorimetric assay, essentially as described by Carmichael et al. [*Cancer Res.* 47, 936 (1987)], whereby the cellular reduction of MTT [3-(4,5-dimethylthiazol-2-yl)-2,5-diphenyltetrozolium bromide] is measured. Treatment with MDL 101,731 alone as described did not show any effect on the growth of the tumor cells.

Calculate IC_{50} values for the individual treatments as well as for the combined treatments of MDL 101,731 with the various other agents. The IC_{50} values at the various concentrations of test agents are presented in Table 3.

Table 3
Antiproliferative Activity of 101,731 in Combination with S Phase Specific Anti-tumor Agents Against HeLa Cells

Drug	Drug Alone IC_{50} (µg/mL)	Drug + 101,731[a] IC_{50} (µg/mL)
Cytosine Arabinoside (Ara-C)	13.7	3.2
5-Fluorouracil (5Fu)	41.1	18.9

[a]101,731 = (E)-2'-deoxy-2'-fluoromethylidenecytidine

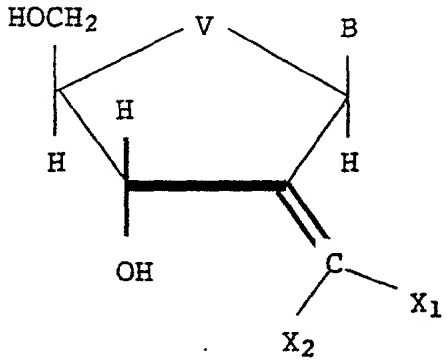
Table 3
Antiproliferative Activity of 101,731 in Combination with S Phase Specific Anti-tumor Agents Against HeLa Cells

Drug	Drug Alone IC_{50} (µg/mL)	Drug + 101,731[a] IC_{50} (µg/mL)
Vinblastine (VLB)	86.7	13.6

[a]101,731 = (E)-2'-deoxy-2'-fluoromethylidenecytidine

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of treating a patient suffering from a neoplastic disease state comprising administering to said patient an effective antineoplastic amount of a 2'-halomethylidene derivative of the formula (1)



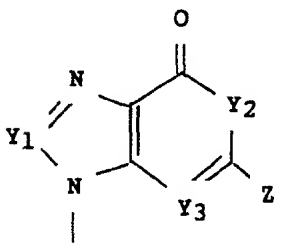
(1)

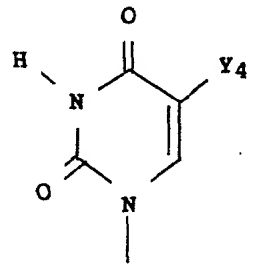
wherein

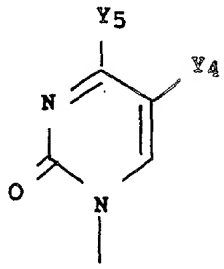
V is oxy, methylene, or thio,

X_1 and X_2 are each independently hydrogen or halogen, with the proviso that at least one of X_1 and X_2 is halogen,

B is a radical of the formula







wherein Y_1 is nitrogen, a CH group, a CCl group, a CBr group or a CNH_2 group; Y_2 and Y_3 are each independently nitrogen or a CH group; Y_4 is hydrogen, C_1-C_4 alkyl, C_1-C_4 alkoxy or halogen; Y_5 is amino or C_1-C_4 alkoxy; and Z is hydrogen, halogen, or NH_2;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof in conjunctive therapy with an effective antineoplastic amount of a S-phase or M-phase specific agent.

2. A method according to Claim 1 wherein the 2'-halomethylidene derivative of the formula (1) is (E)-2'-deoxy-2'-fluoromethylidenecytidine.

3. A method according to Claim 1 wherein the S-phase specific agent is cytarabine.

4. A method according to Claim 1 wherein the S-phase specific agent is fluorouracil.

5. A method according to Claim 1 wherein the M-phase specific agent is vinblastine.

6. A method according to Claim 1 wherein the neoplastic disease state is a leukemia.

7. A method according to Claim 1 wherein the neoplastic disease state is a carcinoma.

8. A method according to Claim 2 wherein the S-phase specific agent is cytarabine.

9. A method according to Claim 2 wherein the S-phase specific agent is fluorouracil.

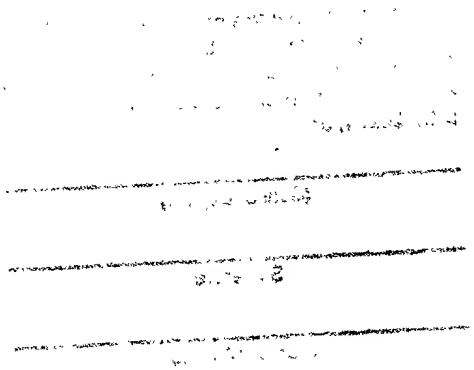
10. A method according to Claim 2 wherein the M-phase specific agent is vinblastine.

11. A method according to Claim 2 wherein the neoplastic disease state is a leukemia.

12. A method according to Claim 2 wherein the neoplastic disease state is a carcinoma.

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The present invention relates to a method of treating a patient suffering from a neoplastic disease state comprising administering to said patient an effective antineoplastic amount of a 2'-halomethylidene derivative in conjunctive therapy with an effective antineoplastic amount of a S phase or M-phase specific agent.



DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

COPY

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare :
My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below my name.
I verily believe I am/we are the original, first and sole/joint inventor(s) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

METHOD OF TREATING CANCER BY CONJUNCTIVE THERAPY WITH 2'-HALOMETHYLIDENE DERIVATIVES AND A S-PHASE OR M-PHASE SPECIFIC ANTINEOPLASTIC AGENT

and the specification of which (check one) [X] is attached hereto (Attorney Docket No.: M01660).
[] was filed on as ()
Application No.
and was amended on .

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information known to me where there is a substantial likelihood that a reasonable examiner would consider such information important in deciding whether to allow the application to issue as a patent.

[] This is a Continuation-in-part application and I hereby acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations §1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of the continuation-in-part application.

[] I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code § 119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below:

FOREIGN PRIORITY APPLICATION(S)

Number	Country	Day/Month/Year Filed

I have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

PRIOR FOREIGN APPLICATION(S)

Number	Country	Day/Month/Year Filed

[] This application is entitled to the benefit of the filing date of the prior application listed below under Title 35, United States Code § 120.

Application Serial No.	Filing Date	Status (Patented, Pending)

I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith, whose addresses are all: **Marion Merrell Dow Inc., 2110 East Galbraith Road, P.O. Box 156300, Cincinnati, Ohio 45215-6300.** Address all correspondence and telephone calls to the first named.

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I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both under Title 18, United States Code § 1001 and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Sai P. Sunkara

Serial No.: **08/967,190**

Filed: **October 29, 1997**

Title: **Method of Treating Cancer by Conjunctive Therapy with 2'-Halomethylidene Derivatives and a S-Phase or M-Phase Specific Antineoplastic Agent**

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Art Unit: 1205

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on

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with full power to prosecute the above-identified application, to make alterations and amendments therein, and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

Docket No. MO1660I US

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Docket No. MO1660I US